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STATE DISCIPLINE -- AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE SPEEDED
UP DEVELOPMENT OF BULGARIA

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STATE DISCIPLINE -- AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE SPEEDED
UP DEVELOPMENT OF BULGARIA

[The following is a translation of an article by Ninko Stefanov in Novo Vreme (New Times), Vol. XXXVI, No. 6, Sofia, June 1960, pages 3-18.]

The socialist regime has won out in cities and villages. The economic potential of the country has increased, and the prerequisites for accelerated development have been provided. The conscientious activity of the people's masses has intensified. The growing might of the world socialist system, with the Soviet Union at its head, has created new economic conditions which make possible the rapid development of production forces in the socialist countries.

In connection with the report read by the First Secretary of the CC of the BCP, Comrade Todor Zhivkov, at the Third Regular Session of the People's Assembly, and the specific nature and needs of Bulgarian socialist development, the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party has called for new tempos in the accelerated development of the socialist economy and the improvement of the people's welfare.

The results evidenced in the fulfillment of the people's economic plan for 1959 have demonstrated that the Central Committee of the Party was quick to see the great resources inherent in the Bulgarian socialist economy, and concentrated the strength of the working people on the search for and utilization of them.

The Bulgarian economy has made great forward strides. More rapid new tempos in industry, agriculture, construction and transportation are in evidence. The industrial production plan for 1959 was 102.4% fulfilled, representing an increase of 24.9% over 1958 production. Products valued at 921,000,000 leva were produced above the plan.

Great success was achieved in agriculture. The production of basic agricultural crops considerably exceeded the annual production average for the years of the Second Five-Year Plan.

The accelerated development of the Bulgarian economy has led to a considerable rise in national income. →

It has increased at twice the average annual rate for the years of the First and Second Five-Year Plans.

One of the principal factors contributing to the tremendous economic achievements of 1959 was the reorganization of state and economic leadership. "State and economic leadership," as Comrade Zhivkov stressed in his report to the Fourth Session of the People's Assembly, "has been more closely linked with production work, the individual production sectors, and the various enterprises...The role, initiative and responsibility of okrug, Party, state and economic organs in the management of the economy have been expanded." (T. Zhivkov, Ze novi pobedi na sotsializma v Bulgariya za mir i razbiratelstvo na Balkanite [Toward New Victories for Socialism in Bulgaria and Peace and Understanding in the Balkans], published by the BCP, 1960, page 13).

Life has demonstrated the properness of the program for the acceleration of the economic development of the country.

The fulfillment results for the 1959 plan showed that the reorganization of state and economic leadership was of extreme importance, especially in improving leadership in production, in individual sectors and in enterprises.

The Central Committee of the Bulgaria Communist Party, in reviewing and assessing the reconstruction of the state administration, decided earlier this year on additional measures to strengthen and further improve economic and state leadership such as to make it even more efficient and helpful in the accelerated economic development of Bulgaria.

The reconstruction and improvement of state and economic leadership has helped to create increasingly favorable conditions for the further development of socialist democracy, the strengthening of the relationship between the Party and the masses, the broadening of the scope of creative activity and the increase of the initiative of the people's masses in all branches of socialist construction.

In his report to the conference of secretaries of obshtina, city, regional and okrug Party committees held on 12 January 1960, Comrade Zhivkov stated that "...Socialist democracy is developing in Bulgaria and will develop further along the line of a strengthening of the democratic principle in the economic activities of the state, an increase in the rights and responsibilities of public organizations in economic

construction, and the encouragement of ever greater socialist democracy in the management of production." (Todor Zhivkov, Po nekoji voprosi na nashata partiyna i obshchestvena rabota [Certain Problems in Our Party and Social Work], published by the BCP, 1960, page 30).

The people's masses are displaying great labor enthusiasm, and are participating actively in the construction of socialism. The feeling of responsibility has increased. In production and political activity, the working people are placing public interests above their own, and are being guided by a desire to be useful to society and the state and to increase constantly the level of material and cultural welfare. They are conscientious in their attitude toward public labor, and maintain state discipline and public order. A clear indication of their enthusiasm and of the socialist democracy in Bulgaria is found in the national movement for the accelerated fulfillment of the Third Five-Year Plan. This has yielded hitherto unheard of economic results.

Labor personnel in plants and factories, mines and construction sites, as well as agricultural workers, have promoted a broad movement for the development and improved utilization of the resources of the people's economy, the constant increase of labor productivity, reduction in production costs, economy in raw and other materials and energy, the study and spread of leading experience, and the undertaking of new projects in the construction of socialism.

The policy of the Bulgarian Communist Party in connection with the building of socialism in Bulgaria is unanimously and wholeheartedly supported by all the working people. Under the leadership of the Party, the Bulgarian people have worked great changes in the country. They have transformed it into a highly developed industrial-agrarian nation. Thanks to the policy of socialist industrialization and collectivization of agriculture in the country implemented by the BCP, the face of Bulgaria has been drastically altered. Socialism has won out in all fields of Bulgaria's economic and social life.

The profound changes in the Bulgarian economy since 9 September 1944 have led to great alterations in public life. The moral-political unity of the people was strengthened, the conscientious activity of the

masses reached new heights, and a new attitude toward labor, public property and the socialist state was created. Socialist competition developed and spread, and the material welfare of the people proceeded to rise at a continuing rate.

Living standards are now higher in Bulgaria than in Turkey, Greece and many of the capitalist countries of Europe.

Today, since the reconstruction of the state and economic leadership, the task of surmounting localist trends and attitudes and strengthening state discipline has become paramount.

"Our state," said Comrade Zhivkov in his speech at the Fourth Session of the People's Assembly, "is a centralized one. The Leninist principle of democratic centralism is the basis upon which it is being constructed. We are not and cannot contemplate turning away from it. It must be rigorously followed. For us it is a law... In all our actions and in every field we must adhere to one slogan: state and national interests above local, okrug or personal ones!" ("New Victories for Socialism in Bulgaria and Peace and Understanding in the Balkans", page 37).

The principal significance of all this is inherent in the fact that the reconstruction of state and economic leadership carried out not only does not constitute a rejection of the role and importance of the socialist state and its functions, but, on the contrary, means an increase in its significance in the economic development of Bulgaria.

"It would be wrong and also dangerous if any measures improving state and economic leadership or eliminating shortcomings therein, or those transferring state functions to public organizations were viewed as opposition to the state apparatus, or if it were claimed that the state apparatus is outmoded. In no case do these actions imply that the role of our state in the construction of socialism has become less important. The state apparatus, under the conditions provided by the transition from socialism to communism, is a weapon in the hands of the workers' class and is confronted with important tasks. Without it, the workers' class would neither be able to guide the development of the people's economy or to help resolve the problems of socialist con-

struction and those which arise during the gradual transit on toward communism. It would not be possible to protect the socialist Fatherland from future imperialist attacks." (Todor Zhivkov, Report at the Third Regular Session of the People's Assembly, page 35).

The state apparatus should contribute as extensively as possible to the further strengthening of state discipline and to the successful resolution of the great tasks of socialist construction.

The Party demands that the work of the state apparatus improve constantly, and that state discipline be increased and strengthened. It also requires the strictest adherence to Party and government decisions, a great increase in the sense of responsibility felt for tasks assigned, systematic improvement in techniques and methods of work and leadership, and honest, conscientious, and accurate labor.

In the directing of the people's economy, the Communist Party depends upon the objective laws which guide socialist economy. In relation to those laws, it works out the people's economic plans and organizes the working people for their implementation.

The decisions adopted by the Party and the government provide the working people with a spirit of discipline and organization in a common purpose -- the construction of socialism and communism. The proper execution of such decisions will ensure the resolution of all tasks on the basis of state rather than local interests.

The noncompliance with decisions and instructions issued by the Party, the government and the socialist state, violations of socialist law and state discipline, lead to infractions of the economic laws which apply under socialism. This in turn inevitably results in disturbances in economic life.

The strengthening of state discipline and compliance with socialist laws are prerequisites of success in the struggle for accelerated economic development.

The decisions of the Party and the government which were adopted in view of the revolutionary changes within the country have the purpose of substantially strengthening the socialist economy. They are the expression of the desires of the workers' class and the working people. They correspond with the needs in Bulgarian public development and will protect the achievements of the people's economic regime. The strict

observance of state discipline and socialist law, and precise and total implementation of Party and government decisions and directives, are the stern duties of each blue and white collar worker.

State discipline is an important prerequisite to the strengthening of the proletarian dictatorship and an upsurge in the socialist economy. Any trace of indifference to socialist law or state discipline does serious harm to the construction of socialism.

The struggle to combat violations of socialist law and state discipline is entirely in line with the new tasks set forth by the Party. It contributes to the successful implementation of economic development in the country. Because of this fact, any arbitrary action in violation of state discipline should be condemned and dealt with harshly by society.

Within the framework of socialism, discipline is maintained and upheld by the high degree of conscientiousness and devotion of the working people toward the socialist Fatherland. Socialist society, unlike capitalist society, is highly disciplined.

The policy of the bourgeoisie is antipopular, and is not planned to serve the interests of the people's masses. It is antiscientific, as well, as it fails to take into account the objective laws of social development. Bourgeois policy is reactionary in nature. The bourgeoisie does not wish to act in accordance with the objective laws, as this would mean admitting the approach of its own demise. The bourgeoisie makes effort to resist the operative objective laws in order to prolong the period of their domination.

The bourgeoisie believes it is entitled to own property and the means of production, to hold in bondage and exploit the working people, as a legal right and a means of discipline. They regard the struggle of the people's masses to escape from capitalist exploitation as a "breach of law, discipline and democracy."

Under the conditions of bourgeois domination, discipline is maintained by oppression, force and terrorism over the people's masses. There is systematic restriction of the rights and freedoms of the working people. The political regime of the financial oligarchy in capitalist countries is based upon coercion of the exploited majority of the people. Such a

regime will not gain the support or respect of the working people, quite understandably.

all of the domestic and foreign policies of the leading circles have as their purpose the tightening of the exploitation and the lowering of the living standards of the masses, the destruction of democratic organization, and domination over other countries and peoples.

In capitalist countries, the laws serve the interests of the exploiting classes. They are directed against the people and the working masses. Bourgeois law is characterized by the gross exercise of force against progressive factions, the arrest and murder of workers, strike-breaking by means of police clubs, and racial discrimination against colored people, as well as terrorism directed against any revolutionary movement.

Socialist laws express the will of the people, and the policies of the Communist Party and the people's regime. For this reason they are supported without hesitation by the working people, and constitute a powerful means for the preservation and strengthening of their socialist achievements. Socialism is characterized by the full development of democracy, and the truly equal and total participation of the whole of the population in all state work and the resolution of the problems in connection with the construction of a socialist society.

The socialist state is the most democratic state form in the history of human society. Socialist democracy is the property of the overwhelming majority of the people -- the workers, the peasants, and all other working people. The basic leadership method in a socialist state involves persuasion and education for the purpose of increasing the people's awareness. It is only those individuals who break the laws of the country, who attempt by various means to hinder socialist construction and who ignore the interests of the people who merit the imposition of legal sanctions.

The development of socialist production is implemented not to serve the interests of an exploiting minority as is the case under capitalism, but to serve the working people. These latter care about the achievements of the people's regime. They evidence a spirit of discipline and conscientious labor, and are constantly augmenting their creative activity.

The existence of irreconcilable contradictions between personal and public interests is characteristic of capitalist society. The domination of property by individual capitalists and the competition and anarchy in production which stem from it create acute contradictions between individual and public interests.

It is only under the conditions provided by socialism, where there is public ownership of the means of production, that the conditions required for a harmonious balance of personal and public interests can exist.

The policy of the Communist Party embodies the basic, vital interests of the working people. It has the purpose of promoting the continuous improvement in the material and cultural welfare of the people. For this reason the Party policy is unreservedly supported by the whole of the people. This in turn is the basis for the new, conscientious attitude of the workers, the working people, and the peasants toward public labor, the implementation of the tasks involved in socialist construction, and ^{the} increase in public production.

Naturally, this is not to say that there are never temporary difficulties or contradictions. There are still some persons in whose minds there are vestiges of capitalism. They may be obsessed with their own personal interests to the exclusion of those of the state. There are persons who try to resolve difficulties at society's expense to serve their own personal needs. Thus in a socialist society some antisocial actions, misuse or theft may occur.

* * *

Our new tasks and organization demand the constant improvement of work in all sectors of Bulgarian public and economic life. the elimination of bureaucracy, shortsightedness and red tape, laziness and indifference.

The organs of authority and administration, individual enterprises, organizations and Farm Workers' Cooperatives have during the past year acquired useful experience in their work. Knowledgeable personnel capable of properly implementing the existing tasks was developed.

Despite the great success achieved in the struggle of the working people to accelerate Bulgarian development, there have been instances

of formalistic implementation of Party and government decrees or decisions. There have been some evidences of localist attitudes, bureaucracy violation of state discipline by okrug people's soviets, enterprises, organizations and farms, etc. The work of the state organs is not entirely adequate. Many shortcomings and errors which exert a negative influence on the economic development of the country are found within the framework of general improvement in the work of the state administration.

The elimination of pride and smugness based on what has been achieved, of liberalism and condescension in regard to the laws, etc., would improve the implementation of Party and government policies by the people.

The accomplishments of Bulgarian industry would have been even greater than they are if all industrial enterprises had fulfilled their production plans. Last year many enterprises failed in this connection, depriving the people's economy of 1,042,000 leva in planned income (in comparable factory prices for 1 April 1956). One reason for this was the violation of Party and government decisions and state discipline.

Some okrug soviets permitted the nonfulfillment of the Council of Ministers' decrees on ^{undertakings} in connection with the people's economic plan. For example, the Pleven Okrug People's Soviet failed to take the steps necessary to organize production of light weight bricks and certain types of machinery. Many parts of the above decree were not implemented by the Pazardzhik Okrug People's Soviet and the Plovdiv City People's Soviet, as well. Such violations exerted a harmful effect upon the fulfillment of the people's economic plan.

The instructions of the Party and the government in connection with continuing improvement in the work of mastery of new production methods have been properly implemented by many industrial enterprises. However, there are some enterprises where a lag in the mastery of production methods for new machinery called for in the plan was permitted. These included the "Strug" State Machine Building Plant (DMZ "Strug") in Nova Zagora, the "G. Dimitrov" State Machine Building Plant (DMZ "G. Dimitrov") in Ruse, the "Stalin" State Machine Building Plant (DMZ "Stalin") in Dimitrovo, etc. In the year since the reconstruction of

state and economic management, there has been evidence of irresponsible changes made in the production programs of certain administrative councils. There was no legal justification for these alterations. For example, an arbitrary change in the plan for 1959⁹ as approved by the government was made by the Plovdiv Okrug People's Soviet in connection with Plant 11 (Zavod 11) in Vazovgrad. This was an evidence of localism. Instead of a haymower for high mountain lands, as was called for by the plan, the People's Soviet ordered the plant to produce bulldozers and automatic dump trailers. These were already being produced by other Bulgarian plants. Thus the successful resolution of the problem of specializing enterprises and improving mass production methods to achieve higher labor productivity and reduce production costs was hindered. Such violations of state discipline constitute a serious setback to technical progress in industry. They involve the unprofitable expenditure of state funds, and unnecessary expenditures and wastage of raw materials.

Failures to fulfill contracts signed between enterprise, organization and administrations constitute gross violations of state discipline. Last year, there were many cases of failure to implement tasks in connection with the manufacture of goods both for domestic consumption and for export. The "V. Kolarov" High Tension Appliance Plant (Silnotokov zavod "V. Kolarov") in Sofia failed to produce the planned 20 electric motors for the "Stalin" Plant in Dimitrovo in the specified period. As a result, the latter plant could not produce a single one of the 20 stonebreakers which it had contracted to export. Similar failures were permitted at the "G. Dimitrov" State Machine Building Plant in Ruse, the "Anton Ivanov" State Machine Building Plant (DMZ "Anton Ivanov") in Plovdiv, Plant 12 (Zavod 12) in Sofia, etc.

The proper and prompt fulfillment of mutual economic obligations between okrugs is of tremendous economic importance. In 1959, the executive committees of the okrug people's soviets devoted much attention to the proper organization of the work at industrial enterprises. They undertook to supervise their activities more closely, and rendered direct aid in the overcoming of obstacles and the elimination of shortcomings in the work. Many okrugs, including Gabrovo, Sofia (City), Stara Zagora, Sofia, Varna, Sliven, and others, achieved a considerable increase in industrial production. The successful fulfillment of their production

plans by various industrial enterprises helped in the meeting of the mutual economic obligations between these okrugs. Many enterprises, including the "Bulgaria" State Industrial Enterprise (DIP "Bulgariya"), Plant 12, the "Ernst Telman" State Industrial Enterprise (DIP "Ernst Telman") in Sofia, the "Maritsa" State Textile Combine (DTI "Maritsa") in Plovdiv, the "Mayden Kirov" State Industrial Enterprise (DIP "Mayden Kirov") and the "Fazan" State Industrial Enterprise (DIP "Fazan") in Ruse, as well as many others, completely met their obligations to other enterprises. However, some negative phenomena were in evidence. Many enterprises failed to fulfill their contractual obligations. This interferes with rhythmic production at enterprises which depend upon production from the defaulting producers. For example, ⁱⁿ nine months of 1959 the "V. Kolarov" High Tension Appliance Plant in Sofia delivered 17,572 electric motors less than it had promised, the "Anton Ivanov" State Machine Building Plant in Plovdiv was 47,100 spare parts short, the "G. Dimitrov" Agricultural Machinery Plant (Zavod za selskostopanski mashini "G. Dimitrov") in Ruse produced 1,587 tractor plows less than planned, etc.

The nonfulfillment of plans and contractual obligations by some enterprises is a result of the lack of rhythm in the implementation of production plans in terms of volume, variety and quality.

The failure to comply with the mutual obligations incurred between okrugs and enterprises was also due to a lack of coordination between production plans and the contracts for finished articles, and to the omission of specifications of quality and variety in the contracts signed with commercial and supply establishments. The "G. Dimitrov" State Industrial Enterprise in Sofia, for example, signed contracts with 19 okrug state enterprises during the third quarter of 1959. Only the type and amount of cotton fabric was specified. The question of color, design and variety was not clarified. An insufficient variety of colors was produced, and as a result of the refusal of trade enterprises and organizations to purchase large quantities of the same colors, a great volume was consigned to warehouse storage.

Due to localist tendencies and attitudes on the part of the managements of certain okrug people's soviets and enterprises, the distribution of finished products is most improperly effected. Large volumes

of goods are allocated for local needs at the expense of the other okrugs. This was the case last year with imported pine boards at the Ruse "Building Materials" branch of the "Material and Technical Supply and State Resources" Administration.

Too frequently "mutual assistance" is rendered by enterprises which sell each other centrally managed production outside the plan. The "9 September" State Industrial Enterprise (DIP "9 Septemvri") in Ruse sold 6,281 square decimeters of calf and 220 kilograms of sole leather to the Leather Craftsmen's Cooperative in Pleven in 1959. This production, which was not planned for such distribution, was exchanged for chemicals which were not intended for that use. That same enterprise sold a further 33,100 square decimeters of calf to the Industrial Combine in Kurdzhali in exchange for sulfuric acid from the Lead and Zinc Plant, obtained through the good services of the combine. This transaction was entirely outside the scope of the plan. Such violations have also been permitted elsewhere. The damage done by such transactions to the people's economy and the individual enterprises themselves is evident.

Such occurrences can only be described as irresponsible and insupportable defiance of state interests. Under the new conditions prevailing and with the new tasks confronting the economy, the struggle for the strictest possible compliance with state discipline and concern for state interests must be organized and implemented with increased zeal by the whole of the Bulgarian public. A passive attitude, circumventions of or indifference to the regulations must be regarded as attitudes which are inconsistent with the measures ordered by the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party for the acceleration of the economic development of Bulgaria. Reluctance to admit shortcomings and the concealment of errors made in the work done result in an increase in the problems in Bulgarian economic activities. Such deceptions result in the waste of strength and materials, deviations from Party and government orders, and hindrances to the fulfillment of the state people's economic plan. A passive attitude toward infractions of discipline holds back the expansion of the creative activity of the working people, and the timely discovery of all the resources available within the people's economy.

The new conditions provided under the reorganized leadership of state and economic work demand greater skill and a better understanding of the tasks involved in Bulgarian development. Successful management is possible only when Party and government decisions are widely understood, all work is based on national interests and proper study and adaptation of the leading enterprises and managements, and the plan discipline is strictly observed. These factors will ensure the rhythmic fulfillment of plans in terms of all indices.

One of the principal problems in socialist construction in Bulgaria is connected with improving the quality of the goods produced. The advantages of the socialist public regime over capitalism is evidenced not only in quantitative indices and a rapid tempo of development, but also in the quality of production. Bulgarian goods have a respected status on the world market. They are closely followed by buyers, and are in constant demand. However, the problem of quality production has not been entirely resolved. The quality of many types of goods and equipment is still too low. These products fail to meet the requirements of the international market.

Quality in production depends upon state discipline. The state spends vast sums on the expansion of production of consumer goods. But these goods will be returned by the buyers if the quality is inferior.

One of the reasons for the low quality of some Bulgarian items is the limited supervision exercised in certain enterprises in this connection, and improper use of the equipment available. The education of production personnel in terms of quality manufacturing is also lagging.

Due to the quality level, many articles and types of produce are being bypassed by commercial organizations. In 1959 the Sofia City Trade Enterprise refused in the first eight months of the year alone 110,000 pairs of shoes produced by the "9 September" Shoe Plant (Obuvnen zavod "9 Septemvri"). A large volume of shoes produced at the Industrial Combine in Stanke Dimitrov was also refused for the same reason. There has been no substantial improvement noted in the quality of production during the first quarter of 1960. Some textile enterprises, such as the "Runo" Textile Combine (Tekstilen kombinat "Runo") and the "Nacho Ivanov" State Industrial Enterprise (DIP "Nacho Ivanov") in Sofia.

have also produced goods of inferior quality.

The administrative councils of the Farm Workers' Cooperatives and the obshtina people's soviets are violating the government decree on the development of cattle breeding and that on the limitation of livestock slaughtering. They are permitting the free market sale or the slaughtering at the TKZS of considerable numbers of large-horned animals without the proper documents and licenses. They also allow the slaughter or sale for slaughter of hogs prior to meeting their pork supplying commitments to the state.

The quality of the furniture turned out by the "Republic" Furniture Enterprise (Mebelno predpriyatie "Republika") in Plovdiv and the "Nezavisimost" Furniture Enterprise (Mebelno predpriyatie "Nezavisimost") in Gabrovo is also poor. The pieces are poorly finished. Doors are warped and veneer panels do not match.

The tendency to neglect the importance of quality and variety in the products manufactured is serious and must be corrected.

Socialist trade plays an important role in the development of the people's economy. It is the link which connects production and consumption, and industrial and agricultural production. Trade should stimulate the production of high grade goods in order that the more complete supply of the population's needs can be effected. The working people should have the opportunity to purchase not only the amounts of goods they need, but also the kind of goods they want and need.

"It should be remembered," said Comrade N. S. Khrushchev at the Plenum of the CC of the CPSU, "That the more we progress and the greater our successes, the more demanding the working people will be and the less tolerant of inadequacy. Why is this? Because success in the development of an economy leads to expectations that this will be reflected on store shelves and in shopping bags." ("Rabotnichesko delo" [Workers' Affairs], No. 369, 30 December 1959).

The nonfulfillment of the retail goods turnover plan for 1959 is an indication that serious shortcomings are still being allowed in the work of the trade enterprises. Okrug trade enterprises have permitted unjustified weakness in the supplying of retail trade organizations. As a result, although a temporary one, many kinds of goods desired by the

population were not available in numerous Bulgarian cities and villages.

The staffs of enterprises and organizations which rhythmically fulfilled their production plans and also struggled to provide variety and products of high quality, conscientious fulfillment of their obligations to the state and people, etc. have evidenced a high degree of discipline.

Government instructions on the preservation of forests in Bulgaria are being violated. Recently the forestry law and the ukase on the preservation of the rural economy in Blagoevgrad Okrug. Such infractions have occurred in the villages of Yakoruda, Belitsa, Gorna Krushitsa, Osenovo, Eleshnitsa, etc. by the Farm Workers' Cooperatives. Considerable quantities of timber have been cut illegally in the state forests. This involves serious damage to the state. In many cases, the infractions had a commercial purpose. The obshtina people's soviet in the village of Yakoruda presumptuously permitted people to cut vast quantities of timber -- 40 to 50 cubic meters each, and in some cases more than 100 cubic meters. At the end of 1959 and the beginning of 1960, the administrative council of the Farm Workers' Cooperative at the village of Gorna Krushitsa permitted the pasturing of sheep in a young pine stand. As a result, 87,600 saplings were destroyed, and the damage cost the state 440,000 leva.

Local state and Party organs, instead of strict vigilance as to the observance of socialist laws and the protection of public property, have displayed insupportable passivity, indifference and leniency in connection with lawbreakers. Prompt and efficacious measures have not been taken when illegal cutting of and pasturing in state forests have occurred.

The struggle to safeguard socialist property is of great importance to the accelerated development of the country.

Socialist ownership of the means of production is the economic foundation of Bulgarian society. It is the basis of systematic increase in public production and the constant improvement in the material and cultural welfare of the working people. For this reason the working people should defend it as the apple of their eye and strive constantly to expand and increase it.

The basic production funds for industry have multiplied several times as compared with the resources in bourgeois Bulgaria. This rep-

presents a vast national wealth which should be safeguarded from waste. socialist property, both state and cooperative. The better it is protected, and the more it is augmented and expanded, the more rapidly it will result in an increase in national wealth and the conditions leading to greater material and cultural welfare of the people.

Bulgarian working people are evidencing a careful attitude toward socialist property. The evidence is found in the rhythmical fulfillment and overfulfillment of production plans, the increase in agricultural and industrial production and the decrease in its cost, the continuing discovery and utilization of the reserves in the people's economy, the careful use of equipment, the struggle to economize as much as possible on the expenditures of energy, raw and other materials, and the mass participation of the working people in socialist competition.

However, along with the success which has been achieved in the safeguarding of socialist property, there has been waste of valuable raw and other materials, theft and misuse have occurred, and some property has not been carefully protected.

One of the most important tasks confronting establishments, enterprises and organizations, as well as the organs of the state and the working people as a whole, is the further intensification of the struggle against those who nurse remnants of capitalism, against theft and misappropriation, and against those who would lead parasitic lives or misuse socialist property.

Attempts at theft or misuse of socialist property have occurred wherever irresponsible attitudes toward the selection of personnel have been found, and wherever the supervision of work has been inadequate. Certain okrug people's soviets and enterprises have seriously undervalued the importance of the implementation of the 169th decree of the VV of the BCP and the Council of Ministers dated 8 August 1958 on the intensification of the struggle to safeguard socialist property. Many Sofia enterprises keep on persons who have been convicted in court of wasting socialist property. Some managers of Sofia enterprises are even continuing to appoint as supervisory and accounting personnel persons convicted of theft and misappropriation. This has occurred at the "Healthy Foods" Rayon Trade Enterprise (RTP "Zdrava khrana") in Stalin Rayon, the "Rila" Rayon Trade Enterprise in V. Levski Rayon, the "Red Star" Industrial Combine, etc.

The theft and misuse found in Bulgaria are due to the vestiges of capitalism in the minds of certain persons. These remnants must be detected and eliminated, in order that the public atmosphere will not be poisoned and public property will be safe.

The resolution of the problem of safeguarding public property requires an atmosphere of hatred for those who waste or plunder the people's property. Moral responsibility must be assigned, and the strictest punishments meted out to those found guilty of such acts. Attempts at seizing or utilizing the public wealth, careless attitudes toward socialist property, etc., are in opposition to the interests of the country and the working people. They do serious damage to the people's economy. For this reason the struggle to protect socialist property and to eliminate theft and misappropriation should be conducted at an unrelenting tempo. All evidences of leniency and tolerance toward persons with designs upon the people's property should be punished.

An efficient means of successfully combatting theft and misappropriation and those persons who waste socialist property is the wise selection of officials for enterprises and establishments, the improvement of accounting procedures, and the systematic supervision of the work of all those entrusted with state funds and public property, as well as the observance of budget and financial discipline.

Serious violations of state discipline have also been permitted by the administrative councils at many Farm Workers' Cooperatives. This has resulted from localist actions and tendencies and neglect of obligations to the state. In frequent cases the Farm Workers' Cooperatives in Blagoevgrad, Kyustendil, Plovdiv, Pleven and other okrugs have sold sizeable quantities of agricultural produce on the free market prior to fulfilling their obligations to the state.

* * *

In order to strengthen state discipline, a constant improvement in the methods of work and leadership of all state and economic organs is needed.

The forms and methods of Party, state and economic leadership should not be fixed or permanent. They are determined by the nature of the tasks to be carried out and the concrete conditions under which the problems of each stage of the country's development must be resolved.

The Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party has been systematically summarizing and interpreting the experience acquired in state and economic leadership and has been issuing the instructions needed in accordance with specific conditions, situations and tasks. Its aim is to effect constant improvement in the methods of work and management in Bulgarian state and social-political life.

In his report to the conference of secretaries of obshtina, city, rayon and okrug Party committees, Comrade Todor Zhivkov gave a profound analysis of the status of the work of the Party and state organs. He thoroughly developed the basic problems in Bulgarian Party and public work, indicating the concrete points on which the attention of the Party committees and organizations, enterprises, okrugs, TKZS, etc. should be concentrated in order to improve their activities drastically.

Socialist construction in Bulgaria requires the constant strengthening of the state and of educational work among the working people. It demands constant improvement in the supervision of implementation of Party and government decisions.

The socialist state is a powerful weapon in the service of the Bulgarian Communist Party, which desires to bring about the completion of the revolutionary change in society and the total construction of socialism and communism. It is the working tool in the hands of the Party and the people which makes possible the successful management of their economic and cultural lives, as well as the proper distribution of material wealth. The Communist Party, through the socialist state and administrative apparatus, organizes and guides the development of the people's economy and coordinates the activities of the working people in all fields of socialist construction. Under the conditions provided by the accelerated economic development of the country, the role and importance of the Bulgarian socialist state are constantly augmenting. In the current stage of development, its economic-organizational and cultural-education functions are expanding rapidly.

The functions and tasks of the socialist state now consist primarily in the organization of public production and the guidance of the economy and culture. Without this agency it would be impossible to resolve successfully the tasks inherent in the plans of the Bulgarian Communist

Party for the accelerated development of socialist production forces. Through the administrative apparatus, the state plan, and numerous other agencies and methods, the socialist state coordinates the efforts of the working people and unifies their actions. It also exercises the supervision required in connection with the volume of labor and consumption, thus providing the stimuli necessary to a constant increase in productivity and reduction in production costs, as well as the best possible utilization of the resources within the people's economy.

Under the conditions provided by the accelerated economic development, the role of the state in connection with the safeguarding of national property is augmented. It must guarantee that socialist ownership is dominant, and that priority is given to the development of heavy industry, and it implements the policies of the Communist Party in all fields of activity. It is the principle tool for the prevention and thwarting of attempts by the remnants of the exploiting classes to hinder the construction of socialism. On the other hand, the socialist state sees to the communist education of the working people, and protects and inspires the population in the struggle toward a new upsurge in the economy and the introduction of new labor discipline.

The Bulgarian socialist state is called upon to protect the country from future attempts by imperialist states to destroy it, to strengthen friendship and collaboration with other socialist countries, and to expand relationships with all countries on the basis of mutual consideration of national interests.

These many-faceted activities of the state make possible the further development of socialist society, the achievement of a new and potent upsurge in the economy, the best and most efficient utilization of the economic resources of the country, and the attainment of a rapid tempo of development in socialist production.

All of these facts make necessary the constant improvement and development of the work of the state apparatus, the strengthening of state discipline, and the proper implementation of Party and government decisions.

Far greater success could have been achieved in the building of socialism in Bulgaria if individual state and economic leaders had not permitted serious shortcomings in their own work and violations of

Party and government decisions. In some enterprises, production and financial discipline is ignored, funds and materials are utilized irresponsibly, and production plans are not being completely fulfilled. The nonobservance of government instructions and the violation of financial discipline cost more than 100,000,000 leva in 1959 in damage to the state. Such shortcomings in the economy of the country are to a great extent the result of the fact that supervisory organs are not always prompt in checking those sectors in which work has been unsatisfactory in order to eliminate the weaknesses. The role and importance of Party, social and state control are increasing constantly in the struggle against errors in state and economic work.

In implementing the instructions contained in the report delivered by Comrade Fodor Zhivkov at the Third Session of the People's Assembly, the organs of the State Control Commission are steadily improving their work. Depending increasingly up on local Party and state organs, specialists and the working people, the Commission has gone through its investigations to discover and put to use the resources within the framework of the people's economy to the extent of 43,000,000 leva in 1959. During the drafting of the plan for 1960, resources which could reduce production costs by 27,000,000 leva were found in ten industrial enterprises. On the basis of a proposal by the State Control Commission, the profits plan was increased by about 29 million leva, and the turnover tax by one and a half million.

In the light of the instructions contained in Comrade Zhivkov's report to the March 1960 session of the People's Assembly, state supervisory authorities are now concentrating their attention on increasing control of the implementation of the government, CC of the BCP and Council of Ministers decisions. They are studying and summarizing management experience in state and economic construction, rendering on-the-spot help in improving methods of state and economic organs, implementing a strict regime of economy, advising on the proper and efficient expenditure of funds and materials, studying questions in connection with the state apparatus^u, and are submitⁿting proposals of measures for its simplification, improvement, and more economical operation. The state supervisory organs have the important task of seeing to it that the laws of the country are observed, that socialist property is safeguarded, that bureaucracy and evidences of localist tendencies

are combatted, and that state discipline is enforced.

The social nature of the state supervisory authorities is expanding constantly. The supervision by the state apparatus is combined with that exercised by the broad masses of the people. The investigations of the State Control Commission involve a broad circle of specialists in all sectors of the people's economy who are representatives of the local, Party, state, trade union, Komsomol and other organizations of the working people. One of the basic factors in the strengthening of state discipline is proper communist education of the working people, and an increase in the awareness of the masses of the people. The uninterrupted growth of communist conscientiousness in the masses broadens the foundations of state discipline and contributes to the elimination of instances of indifference and attacks upon the people's property.

The vast majority of the Bulgarian working people observe socialist law and state discipline. This is an evidence of the unity existing between the interests of society and those of the individual.

The great labor deeds of the Bulgarian people in their efforts toward the accelerated economic development of the country are evidence of the high level of awareness and enthusiasm for the Party and government decisions. For the working personnel, creative collaboration and mutual aid in their work are the principle characteristics in production activity and the main reason for the success of the Party's cause.

The followers of Soviet textile worker Valentine Gaganova are numerous. The youth brigades for Komsomol shock labor are a remarkable evidence of the high level of conscientious activity. An example is found in the brigades at the "G. Dimitrov" State Mining Enterprise (DNEP "G. Dimitrov") at the Eliseyna Railroad Station, the brigades at the cement plant under construction in the village of Beli izvor in Vratsa Okrug, those at many textile factories, Farm Workers' Cooperatives and construction sites, etc.

Another evidence of the high level of awareness and devotion to the cause of communism is the pledges made by the labor staffs in industrial, construction, transportation, trade and farming enterprises in connection with the overfulfillment of the 1960 plan. The new material production methods adopted indicate the extent of the faith of the

Bulgarian people in the Party's plan for accelerated economic development in Bulgaria.

The elimination of the economic basis for class antagonism between people under socialism does not imply the automatic disappearance of the reek of capitalism in the minds of individuals. These remnants still exist to one degree or another. They should be eliminated through adamant educational work. The ideological training of the working people helps them properly to master and comprehend the policy being pursued by the Party and the tasks which socialist construction involves. It helps to establish communist concepts in the minds of the working people and to promote devotion to socialism and communism. Ideological education spurs the workers and peasants on toward great acts of labor and promotes a high level of communist morality.

The elimination of habits held over from the past and the correction of disciplinary infractions are important requisites to the improvement of work in all sectors of Bulgarian life. One of the means of effecting this elimination is the intensification of criticism of shortcomings of weaknesses in the work of the state and economic organs and enterprises.

Party supervisory commissions play an important role in Bulgaria's social and economic life. Their adamant stand and their skill are to a considerable extent the lodestone of the introduction of new work and management methods responding to the requirements of the new tasks and tempo of development in the country, the strengthening of state discipline, and the exemplary fulfillment of Party and government plans.

Public supervision plays a particularly important role in the surmounting of shortcomings and improvement of the work in enterprises and organizations. Through public control commissions the working people help in the proper fulfillment of the tasks set forth by the Party and the government. Their task is to aid Bulgarian state and economic organs, enterprises and organizations in safeguarding the interests of socialism. These committees must be vigilant, objective, and scrupulously honest in order to be able to help properly in the fulfillment of economic plans.

What is the principal factor to which we should devote attention in connection with the work currently in progress?

First and foremost, the prompt and proper supervision of the fulfillment of Party and government instructions is required. An unyielding battle must be waged from the proper implementation of all tasks. We need the sort of checking that will transform the decisions of the Party and the government into a reality, and which will result in the complete unity of words and deeds. Only this will strengthen and raise even higher the level of Party and state discipline, and make possible an upsurge in Bulgarian Party, state and public work.

Our new tasks demand an adamant battle against leniency and formalism in our work, as well as strictness and high quality in the work of each state and economic laborer, each enterprise, establishment and organization. Also, the personal responsibility of individuals for the completion of various tasks must be promoted.

Improvement in state and economic work involves the sternest adherence to state discipline and constant expansion of the creative and constructive criticism and selfcriticism of shortcomings in all aspects of Bulgarian life. Criticism and selfcriticism constitute a potent means of rapidly correcting errors and weaknesses, and gaining the confidence of the working people. The criticism required is that which will persuade state and economic workers, labor staffs and the entirety of the Bulgarian public of the properness of the Party and government policies; that which will stimulate the masses to the actual implementation of these policies, aid in the rapid surmounting of difficulties, and indicate the proper path toward prompt and complete fulfillment of the existing tasks.

The implementation of strict Party and state discipline involves a greater scope and range of work, and the constant improvement and increase in the creative activity and initiative of the working people.

The improvement of Party and state discipline involves a stricter observance of the principle of democratic centralism, intolerance of localist attitudes and trends, and the total elimination of any laxity or slackness.

The program of accelerated development in the economy of Bulgaria has become the cause of the people as a whole. It has become a powerful material force for Bulgarian social development. The hope of

certain bourgeois politicians and revisionists that the Party plan for accelerated economic development would prove "utopian" and "a fantasy" was in vain. The fulfillment results for the 1959 state people's economic plan confounded the prophesy of the enemies of socialism and peace.

The fulfillment of the great tasks set forth in the 1960 plan involves even better organization of the work of ministries, committees, okrugs, enterprises, and at construction sites and Farm Workers' Cooperatives, and even greater extension of the enthusiasm, initiative and creative activity of the people's masses.

"In the interests of rapid development," states the appeal of the CC of the BCP to communists and other working people, "We must wage a decisive battle against instances of conservatism and bureaucracy in the work of state and economic organs, against tolerance of violations of state discipline and nonfulfillment of obligations to the state and its enterprises, localist and narrow individual interest tendencies, etc. National and state interests must always be placed above everything -- above particular interests. From now on the fulfillment of the obligations of enterprises, Farm Workers' Cooperatives toward other enterprises and okrugs must be considered one of the principal indices of good work." ("Работническо дело", No. 351, 17 December 1959).

State discipline and socialist law are called upon to strengthen the people's democratic regime. They constitute an important factor in the accelerated economic development of Bulgaria and in the successful implementation of the policies of the Bulgarian Communist Party.